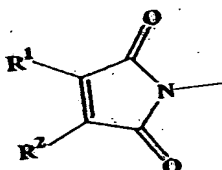


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces any and all prior claim lists.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented). A crosslinkable resin composition, comprising (A) a polymer that contains a maleimido group represented by formula (1):



wherein (i) one of R¹ and R² represents a hydrogen atom while the other represents an alkyl group having 4 or less carbon atoms, (ii) both R¹ and R² represent an alkyl group having 4 or less carbon atoms, or (iii) R¹ and R² are a saturated hydrocarbon group in the form of a carbocyclic structure and an ethylenically unsaturated group on a side chain thereto, said polymer having a number average molecular weight of 1,000 or more.

Claim 2 (original). A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which said maleimido group is bonded via an ester or urethane linkage to an ethylenically unsaturated group-containing polymer.

Claim 3 (original). A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which said ethylenically unsaturated group is bonded via an ester or urethane linkage to a maleimido group-containing polymer.

Claim 4 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, further comprising (B) a compound, other than the component (A), containing an ethylenically unsaturated group.

Claim 5 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which said ethylenically unsaturated group of the component (A) is acryloyl or methacryloyl group.

Claim 6 (original): A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 4, in which the component (B) is a compound having two or more ethylenically unsaturated groups.

Claim 7 (original). A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 6, in which said thylenically unsaturated groups of the component (B) are acryloyl or methacryloyl groups.

Claims 8 and 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (original). A crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which said composition is an aqueous crosslinkable resin composition.

Claim 11 (original). An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 10, in which the component (A) is dissolved or dispersed in an aqueous medium.

Claim 12 (previously presented). An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, in which the component (A) is a polymer containing a maleimido group represented by said formula (1), an ethylenically unsaturated group and an acidic group, or a salt of the polymer.

Claim 13 (original). An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 12, in which said acidic group is a carboxyl group.

Claim 14 (original). An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 13, further comprising (B) a compound, other than the component (A), containing two or more ethylenically unsaturated groups.

Claim 15 (original). An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition as defined in claim 14, in which said ethylenically unsaturated groups of the component (B) are acryloyl or methacryloyl groups.

Claims 16-19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (previously presented). A crosslinkable resin composition comprising a compound as defined in claim 1, said resin composition crosslinkable by irradiation with an active energy beam.

Claim 21 (original). A method for coating an article, which comprises applying a composition of claim 1 to an article, and then irradiating the composition with an active energy beam.

Claim 22 (previously presented). An aqueous crosslinkable resin composition comprising a composition as defined in claim 1, said resin composition crosslinkable by irradiation with an active energy beam.

Claim 23 (original). A method of coating an article, which comprises applying a composition of claim 1 to an article, and then irradiating the composition with an active energy beam.

Claim 24 (previously presented). An aqueous paint for wood, comprising a composition as defined in claim 1, said paint crosslinkable by irradiation with an ultraviolet light.

Claim 25 (original). A method for coating wood, which comprises applying a composition of claim 1 to wood, and then irradiating the composition with an ultraviolet light.

Claim 26 (original). A crosslinkable resin composition defined in claim 1 in which said polymer has a number average molecular weight of 1,000 to 1,000,000.

Claim 27 (new). A cross-linkable resin composition according to claim 1 in which R¹ and R² form a saturated hydrocarbon group by combining together to form a carbocyclic structure.

Claim 28 (new). A cross-linkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 form a saturated hydrocarbon group by combining together to form a carbocyclic structure.

Claim 29 (new). A cross-linkable resin composition as defined in claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 form a group represented by $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$.

Claim 30 (new). A cross-linkable resin composition as defined in claim 12, wherein R^1 and R^2 form a group represented by $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$.